

# **NGA Policy Academy**

## **Governance to Advance Interoperable Communications**

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### **Status Report – State of Arizona**

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**Statewide Interoperability Coordinator**





# AZ's Evolving Governance Project

Increase Governance Model alignment with best practices and national recommendations

Strengthen, reconstitute or form Governance Model elements as needed

Develop and approve deliverables using strengthened Model elements and relationships



# PSCC Governance Challenges

## •Governance - What

- Earlier governance work presumed development of a single statewide system that is no longer being planned
- During two day-long stakeholder meetings held in November of 2008 and February of 2009, it was determined that regional systems and connections between them are being planned

## •Governance - Who

- Arizona has a new governor and administration as a result of Janet Napolitano's move to Homeland Security
- The new administration appointed a new GITA Director to serve as Chairman of the PSCC
- Over half of the PSCC Commissioners have expired terms. New appointments have been delayed because of administration changes
- The appointment of new PSCC members will result in significant changes in the Commission



# Key Governance Elements Improved

**1. SIGB and SWIC**

**2. Stakeholder Resource Group**

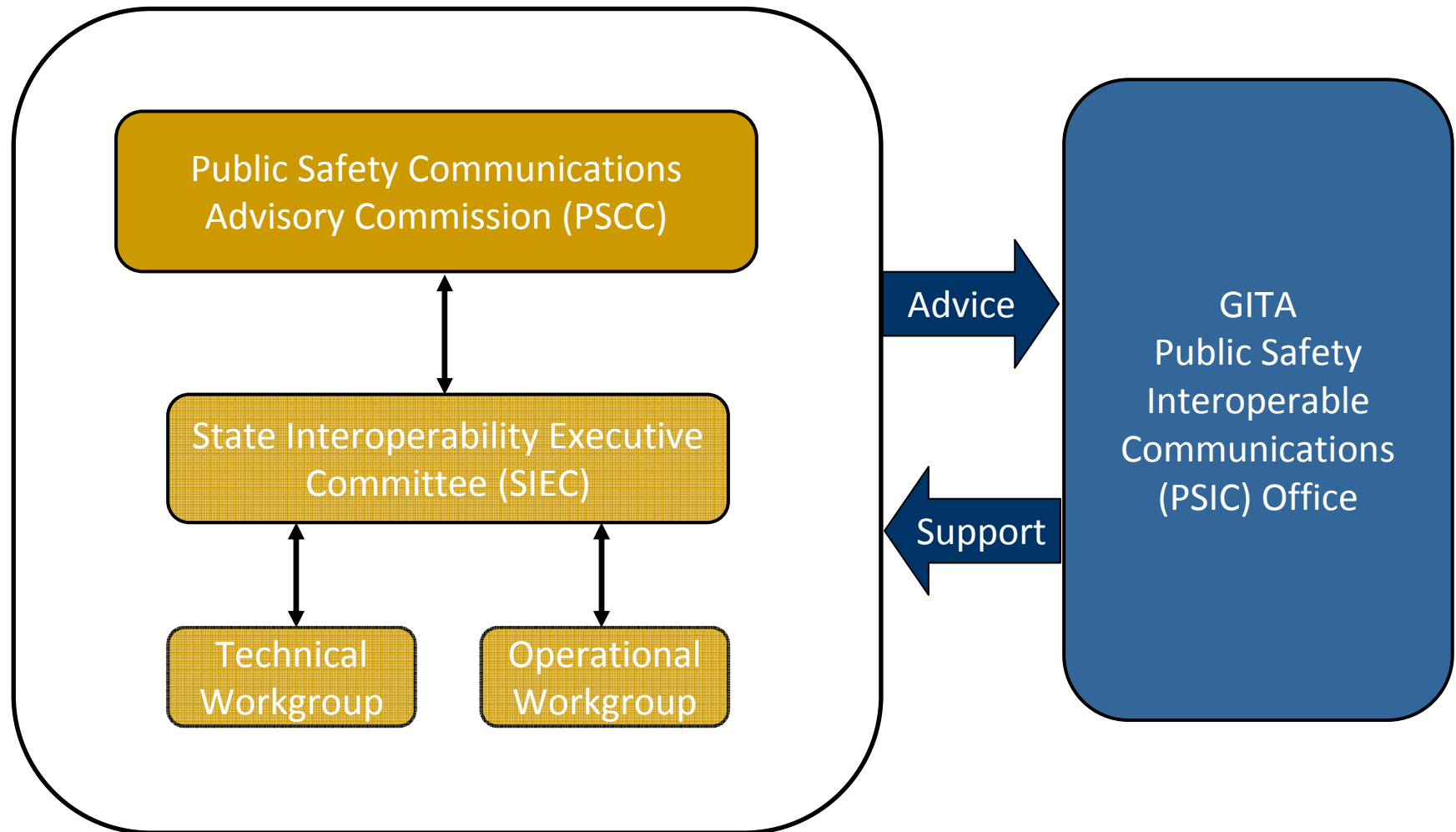
**3. State Agency Group**



# 1. Arizona SIGB and SWIC

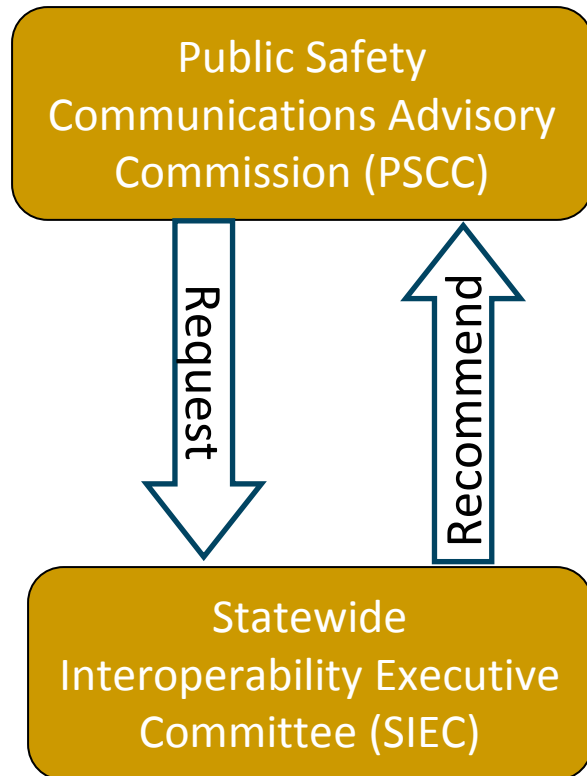
**SIGB**

**SWIC**





# SIGB = PSCC + SIEC



- PSCC is enabled by statute
- Fifteen Commissioners are appointed by the Governor to represent the five state Homeland Security Regional Advisory Councils (RACs)
- The PSCC makes recommendations regarding statewide interoperability
- The SIEC is a subcommittee of the PSCC consisting of five members led by two co-chairs named by the PSCC
- The SIEC provides technical and operational advice to the PSCC



# Strengthen PSCC/SIEC Operations

- Each group now meets bi-monthly instead of quarterly to accelerate workflow
- Meetings are now held in alternate months rather than on the same day to facilitate direction-setting and processing of recommendations
- Regional updates will be incorporated into PSCC Meetings to share regional insights and identify unmet regional needs
- Meetings will be held in distributed locations to attract new local participants, equalize travel burdens and encourage continued participation
- Frequency and quality of communication between meetings has been improved by instituting more electronic communications and teleconferencing

# Strengthen the SIEC

- SIEC Operational and Technical Workgroups have been reconstituted with full and representative participation of public safety personnel recruited by the PSIC Outreach Manager
  - The Technical Workgroup is responsible for recommendations on technical standards and spectrum usage
  - The Operational Workgroup is responsible for recommendations on operational standards and processes
- We have added subject matter experts to these Workgroups from around the state







# Statewide Interoperability Coordinator's Office (SWIC)

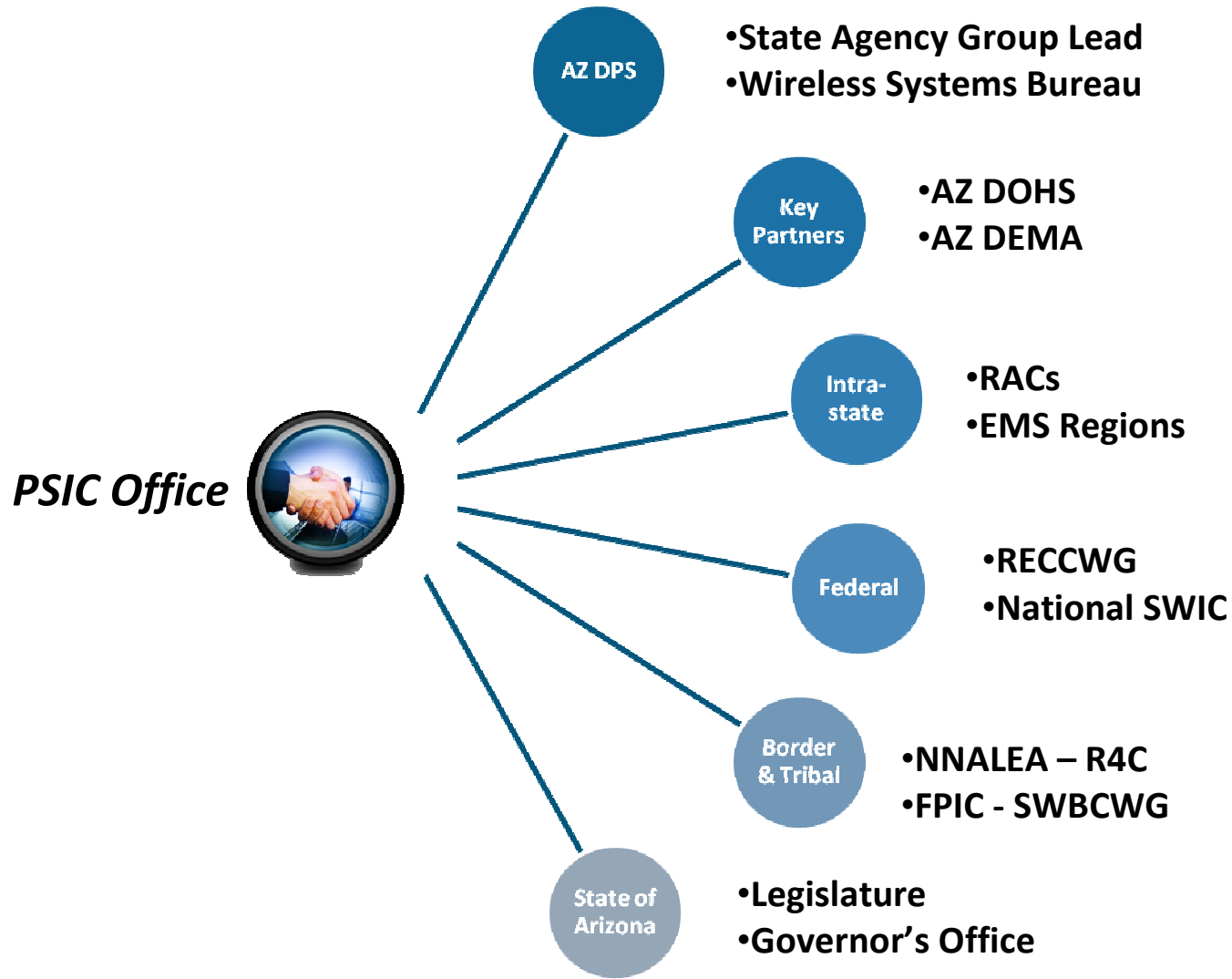
- The Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission (PSCC) Support Office was formerly located within the AZ Department of Public Safety
- Moved by legislation into the Government Information Technology Agency (GITA) and now known as the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Office
- GITA serves as the strategic planning and coordination agency for information technology for the State of Arizona and is responsible for (in addition to PSIC):
  - IT Coordination and Planning
  - IT Project Review and Monitoring
  - Statewide Information Security and Privacy



# SWIC Evolution

- PSIC Office Manager named as Arizona's first Statewide Interoperability Coordinator
- Statewide Interoperability Coordinator serves as Arizona's Interoperability Representative on multiple federal, regional, border and state taskforces
- The PSIC Office has developed its Vision, Mission and Plan
- PSIC Office staff assigned responsibilities for supporting Outreach and Public Policy initiatives
- The Office instituted regular meetings at multiple levels with key partner agencies – AZ DOHS, AZ DPS, AZ DEMA

# Interoperability Outreach





## 2. Stakeholder Resource Pool

- Began with an Interested Parties List heavily populated with vendors
- Outreach Program established relationships with technology experts, organization leaders and cross-discipline, cross-jurisdictional first responders
- To date, twenty-nine stakeholders have been recruited to serve on the Technical and Operational Workgroups of the SIEC
- We will continue to recruit for Workgroups from time to time
- We continue to increase the List through outreach meetings statewide
- Communication is being maintained with the growing Interested Parties List
- Additional communication is now directed toward Workgroup members, with preferential seating established for them at public meetings to facilitate interactions with the SIGB



## 3. State Agency Group

- The State Agency Group is currently in formation
- Led by the Arizona Department of Public Safety
  - DPS has representation on the PSCC (SIGB)
  - DPS Wireless System Bureau operates the Arizona Interagency Radio System and the State Microwave System
- Members to be appointed by Agency Directors will be empowered to speak on behalf of their agencies
- The PSIC Office (SWIC) will participate as a non-voting member in the group
- The Group will be responsible for advancing collective plans for operable and interoperable solutions for State agencies



# Leveraging Governance Efforts

## Case example of how these improvements are helping:

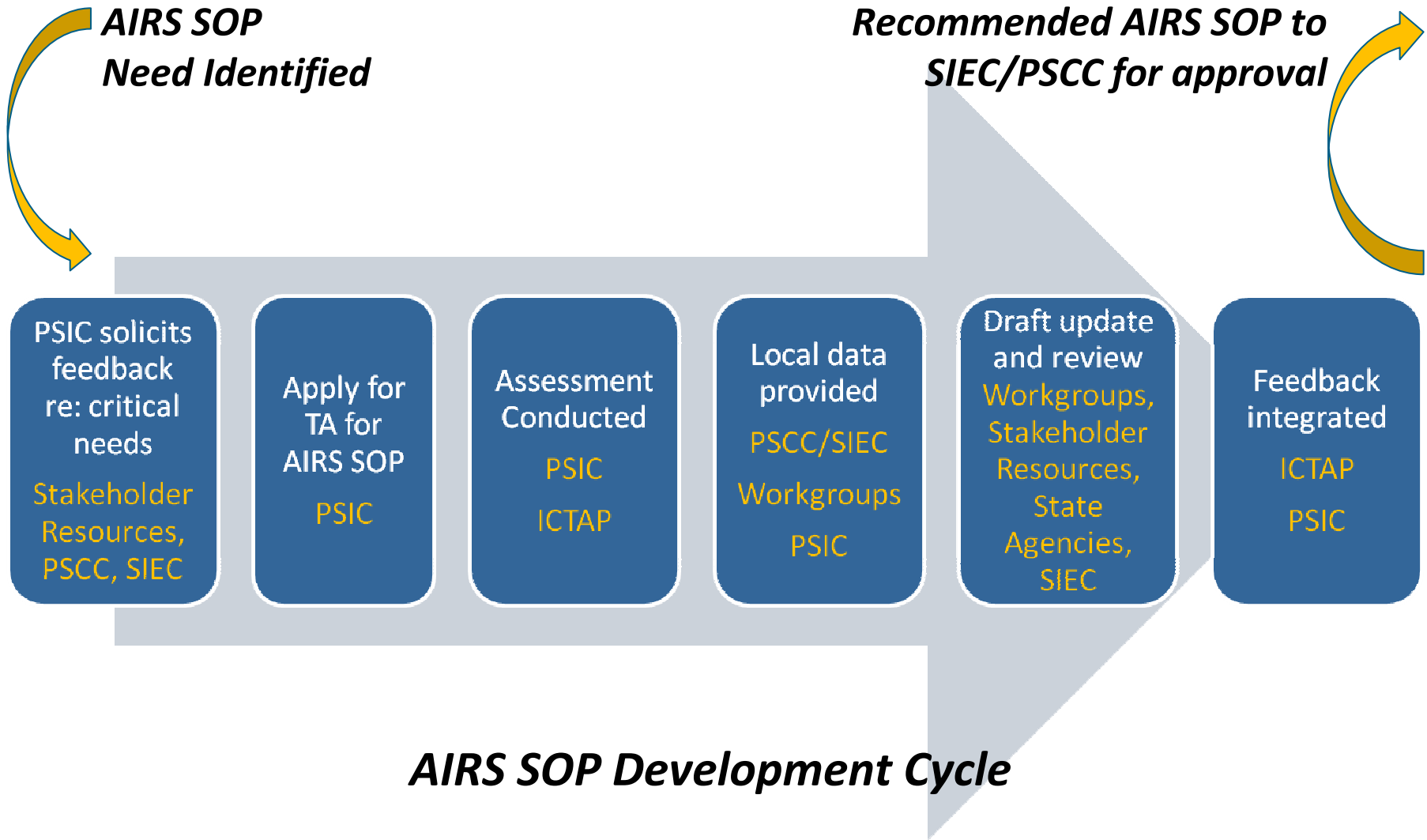
### *Development of the Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) SOP*

- Development of an AIRS SOP was a test case for Arizona's strengthened governance model
- AIRS is operated by AZ DPS, with oversight provided by the SIEC
- AIRS is currently the only system providing statewide interoperable communications for multi-agency use statewide
- More than 130 agencies have signed an MOU with DPS for the use of AIRS
- The PSIC Office was granted a Technical Assistance Request to assess existing AIRS documents and to develop a concise, effective AIRS SOP



# Progression through Governance Model

Government Information Technology Agency





# Outstanding Project Deliverables

## Under Development

- Standard MOU Template and examples of Arizona MOUs
- Identification and selection of performance measures related to current SCIP Initiatives and Supporting Objectives
- SOPs for Interoperable Communications will be built on NIIIX model templates and sample documents

## Deferred

- PSCC Charter analysis complete, but discussion of changes deferred until new PSCC appointees representing over half of the Commission are seated



# ***Questions?***

# ***Discussion***

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